



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Hal E. Greer
Director

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission
201 North 9th Street, General Assembly Building, Suite 1100
Richmond, VA 23219

(804) 786-1258

JLARC Study Priorities Subcommittee Meeting – Minutes

July 14, 2014

Attending

JLARC Members:

Senator John C. Watkins, Subcommittee Chairman; Senator Janet Howell, Delegate John M. O'Bannon, and Delegate Lionell Spruill.

JLARC Staff:

Hal Greer, Director; Justin Brown, Associate Director; Kimberly Sarte, Assistant Director; Paula Lambert, Manager of Fiscal and Administrative Services.

Others:

Mike Woods (Troutman Sanders); Rob Jones (Virginia Education Association); Jason Saunders (Department of Planning and Budget).

The subcommittee meeting began at approximately 9:10 a.m. Senator Watkins recognized Hal Greer, JLARC staff Director, who provided the subcommittee members with a brief overview of the meeting agenda and directed their attention to the list of study priorities approved by a 2012 Commission resolution (attached). Mr. Greer explained that the Implementation Review of VRS Investment Staff Compensation Study was completed by JLARC staff in 2013. Conducting a study of the Organization of Virginia's System of Courts was contingent upon the completion of a caseload study conducted by the National Center for State Courts, which was completed in 2013. Mr. Greer explained that Delegate Albo had suggested that it might be useful for JLARC to conduct a review of the caseload study but the subcommittee agreed that the issue was still in flux and that it did not make sense for JLARC to review it at this time.

The subcommittee discussed the following regarding the remaining studies listed in the 2012 resolution:

Review of State Agency Contract Development and Management

- Senator Howell: This study should include a review of public-private partnerships in other states and countries.

Review of Career and Technical Education in Virginia

- Mr. Greer: Aspects of this topic are being covered in JLARC's current review of workforce development, but the project leader feels that this topic may warrant a separate review.

Adequacy and Management of VDOT's Highway Maintenance Program

- The subcommittee members agreed that this study should remain on the list.

Budget Impacts on Institutional and Community Corrections

- Mr. Greer: Corrections was a large focus of JLARC in the 1990s.
- Senator Howell: Other states are saving money by using community correctional centers.

Review of the Department of Motor Vehicles

- Mr. Greer: JLARC has never conducted a study of DMV.
- Senator Watkins: The role of DMV in state government has changed over time, which warrants a JLARC study.

Review of the Department of State Police

- Mr. Greer: JLARC has never conducted a study of State Police.

Senator Watkins noted that state contracting and DMV studies are two areas that JLARC staff should focus on now. He also stated that water resource planning is an additional area that should be considered. Delegate O'Bannon explained that he is on the State Water Commission, which has been made aware of waters east of I-95 that have an increasing salt content. He stated that this may be an appropriate area for JLARC to examine. Senator Watkins noted that JLARC staff should meet with Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Environmental Quality, and the State Water Control Board and present a scoping document to the Commission in September for additional consideration. Delegate Spruill stated that the staff should also study how the water is being treated, in addition to whether there are adequate and clean resources.

Delegate O'Bannon then reminded the subcommittee members that Delegate Albo had introduced a Medicaid non-emergency transportation services study in the 2014 General Assembly session. He stated that DMAS is currently looking at their transportation contract so JLARC staff should conduct this study after a new contract has been executed and transportation services have been provided for a period of time under the new performance requirements. Delegate O'Bannon also stated that there has never been an external audit of Medicaid, so JLARC should conduct an audit of all areas within the program. Senator Watkins stated that the staff should develop the scope of a Medicaid study, which would explain the specific areas that could be included in a full study.

Senator Watkins noted that the subcommittee's recommendation to the full Commission should be for JLARC staff to (1) move forward with two new studies:

- Review of state agency contract development and management
- Review of the Department of Motor Vehicles

and (2) prepare scoping documents on two potential new studies, which will be presented to the Commission at the meeting on September 8, 2014:

- Water resource planning in Virginia
- Review of Virginia's Medicaid program

The subcommittee also agreed to authorize a study of Medicaid non-emergency transportation services after the implementation of a new contract between DMAS and the service provider.

The subcommittee agreed that all of the other studies listed in the 2012 resolution, except the VRS investment compensation study, should remain on the list of potential studies.

There being no further business, the subcommittee rose at 9:35 a.m.

Approved by: _____

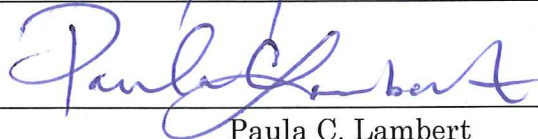


Hal E. Greer, Director

Date: _____



Prepared by: _____



Paula C. Lambert

Manager, Fiscal and Administrative Services &
Senior Legislative Analyst



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission

A Resolution of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission directing staff to study selected programs and agencies of State government.

WHEREAS, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission is authorized by §30-58.1 of the *Code of Virginia* to direct staff to study the operations, practices, and duties of State agencies and,

WHEREAS, the Commission is authorized by §30-66 of the *Code of Virginia* to select the functional areas to be reviewed by staff under the provisions of the Program Review and Evaluation Act, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission that staff are directed to complete the following studies in the order of priority listed below as staff and other resources become available:

- Implementation Review of VRS Investment Staff Compensation Study
- Review of State Agency Contract Development and Management
- Review of Career and Technical Education in Virginia
- Adequacy and Management of VDOT's Highway Maintenance Program
- Budget Impacts on Institutional and Community Corrections
- Review of the Department of Motor Vehicles
- Review of the Department of State Police
- Organization of Virginia's System of Courts (after completion of the caseload study by the National Center for State Courts)

Studies directed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly or by the Appropriation Act shall have first priority in the assignment of staff and other resources and shall be completed as scheduled by the General Assembly.

Staff shall report the findings and recommendation of the studies authorized by this Resolution to the Governor and the General Assembly.

Adopted by the Commission, December 10, 2012